

Arizona Ready Educational Council

Drop Out & Recovery
January 26, 2012

Terms & Definitions

» Who is a "dropout"?

Dropout

■ Arizona Dropout Rate

- Students who are enrolled in school at any time during the school year, but are not enrolled at the end of the school year and did not transfer, graduate, or die

■ Federal Dropout Rate

- Percent of 16 – 24 year olds who are not enrolled in school and have not earned a high school credential

Graduation

■ Arizona Graduation Rate

- Students who graduate within 4 years of starting high school in Arizona

■ Federal Completion Rate

- Individuals in a given age range who are not in high school and who have earned a high school diploma or an alternative credential, irrespective of when the credential was earned

Current Statistics

» What are the numbers?

Arizona Statistics (Source: ADE)

Dropout Rate

Year	Dropout Rate
2007	4.2%
2008	3.6%
2009	2.9%
2010	2.7%

Race/Ethnicity	2010 DO Rate	2009 DO Rate	2008 DO Rate
Asian	0.9%	0.9%	1.3%
Black	3%	3%	3.7%
Hispanic	3.4%	3.6%	4.3%
Native American	6.8%	6.7%	8.2%
White	1.7%	2%	2.4%

Arizona Statistics (Source: ADE)

▣ Graduation Rate

Year	Graduation Rate
2006	69.9%
2007	73.4%
2008	74.9%
2009	76.1%

Race/Ethnicity	2009 G Rate	2008 G Rate	2007 G Rate
Asian	88.1%	87.4%	85.5%
Black	72.6%	72.7%	72.3%
Hispanic	68.6%	66.6%	64.7%
Native American	62.9%	59.8%	55.0%
White	83.2%	82.5%	81.3%

Federal Statistics

- ▣ Nationwide in 2009, dropout rate was 8.1% and completion rate was 89.8%

Who are we missing?

- Arizona graduation rate (76.1%) and dropout rate (2.9%) for 2009 do not add up to 100%, so where are those missing individuals?
- Graduation rate and dropout rate do not include those students who graduate from high school outside of the 4 year completion window or receive a GED!

High School Dropouts...

■ Have lower median incomes

- Median Income for US Adults (age 18 – 67)

No HS Diploma	HS Diploma/GED
\$25,000	\$43,000

■ Poor health outcomes

- Selected Health Statistics for US Adults (age 25 and over)

Outcome	No HS Diploma	HS Diploma/GED
Heart Disease (Any)	14.4%	12.8%
Diabetes	15.1%	11%

■ Cost society

- Average dropout costs society \$209,000 (2004 statistic) from lower tax contributions, dependence on Medicaid and Medicare, higher rates of criminal activity, and dependence on welfare.

Causes

» What leads to drop out?

Why don't students finish school?

Personal Reasons

- Not motivated/inspired to work hard (69%)
- Classes are not interesting (47%)
- Had to get a job to make money (32%)
- Became a parent (26%)
- Had to care for a family member (22%)

Academic Reasons

- Couldn't keep up with schoolwork (30%)
- Missed too many days of school (43%)
- Started high school poorly prepared by earlier schooling (45%)

What makes students return to school?

- ▣ Believe that graduating from high school is important to success in life (81%)
- ▣ If they could relive the experience, 74% would stay in school
- ▣ 76% would re-enroll in a program for adults their age
- ▣ Not having a diploma makes it hard to find a job (47%)

Solutions – Arizona

- » What has worked to reduce drop out and increase recovery?

D-Pass at Douglas High School

- ▢ Alternative day school & credit recovery program
- ▢ Keys to success:
 - Flexibility
 - Personalized Attention
 - Constant Monitoring

Dysart Express at Dysart High School

- ▢ Freshman Academy, Advancement Via Individual Determination, credit recovery
- ▢ Keys to success:
 - Multi-pronged approach
 - Targeting different groups of students
 - Early identification and intervention
- ▢ Data:
 - After first year, improvements in pass rates on AIMS reading and math

WINGS Academy at Flagstaff High School

- ▮ Academic and behavioral interventions for at-risk freshmen
- ▮ Keys to success:
 - Relationships & communication
 - Systematic interventions
 - Accountability for all stakeholders

AIMS Intervention and Dropout Prevention Program at Nogales Unified District

- Intensive summer program for at-risk freshmen (including life skills component)
- Remediation for seniors who have not passed AIMS
- Keys to success:
 - Prevention and remediation
 - Multi-pronged approach in line with other school initiatives
- Data:
 - Graduation rates increased from 77% (2001) to 87% (2008)
 - Follow-ups show more students entering post-secondary education and work activities

Rose Academies (Alternative Charter High School)

└ Keys to success:

- Flexible schedules
- Accountability for all stakeholders

└ Data:

- Students entering behind on credits (83%)
- Students entering not having passed AIMS (65% math, 49% reading)
- 2010 graduates breakdown:
 - ▢ 3 years: 10%
 - ▢ 4 years: 30%
 - ▢ 5+ years: 60%

Solutions – Arizona (CTE)



Role of CTE



- ▣ Identified as one of 15 effective strategies for dropout prevention by the National Dropout Prevention Network
- ▣ 82,650 students in CTE classes
- ▣ 17,392 students were identified as CTE concentrators
- ▣ CTE concentrators AIMS pass rates:
 - Reading – 95%, Math – 89%
- ▣ CTE concentrators have 98% 4 year graduation rates
- ▣ CTE concentrators have 77% post-graduation placement rate

Solutions – National

- » What has worked to reduce drop out and increase recovery?

National Guard Youth Challenge Program

- Quasi-military residential program for high school dropouts
- Five-month, intensive residential program, followed by a year-long mentoring phase in their home communities
- Raises educational attainment (high school diploma/GED & college credits) and boosts earnings
- Independent multi-year study by MRDC (June 2010)

Gateway to College National Network

- Helps high school dropouts and students on the verge of dropping out to earn a high school diploma while also earning college credits
- 5 Essential Elements
 - Significant dual credit, sustainable partnerships, holistic student support, innovative teaching & learning, intentional collaboration
- 16 states, 100 school districts
- Results from 2004 – 2010
 - Better attendance (82%)
 - Greater sense of connections (self-report reduction in problems with peers, school administrators, and faculty, self-report feeling safer)
 - Improved academic performance (pass 80% of first transfer-level courses)
 - College credit accumulation (average of 35 college semester credits with high school diploma)

The American Academy Dropout Recovery Program

- ▮ Districts identify at-risk students and dropouts
- ▮ TAA provides local advocate, curriculum, instruction, materials, and laptops for online course completion

See Forever Foundation – Maya Angelou Schools

- ▮ Students improve 1.3 and 1.4 years in math and reading compared with advancing 0.5 grade levels per year before attending the Academy
- ▮ Students earn credits at an 86% rate more than 3 times the rate they were achieving before attending the Academy
- ▮ Mathematica Policy Research recognized Maya Angelous public schools with the EPIC Silver Gain Award for producing significant gains for students

Texas Dropout Recovery Pilot Program

- August 2008 – May 2010
- Focus on reengaging students who have already dropped out
- Pay-for-performance model
- Served 4141 students, 1283 students completed the program
- Flexible schedules, self-paced learning, academic and social support services
- Majority of served students were economically disadvantaged, much higher rate than general student population
- Provided cash incentives
- 31% completed program, 33% remain in program, 36% dropped out
- 6 of 45 grantees accounted for more than half of program completions (all 6 had previous experience with dropout recovery)

Communities in Schools

- 25 states and DC
- Places a coordinator inside schools to assess needs and deliver necessary resources that remove barriers to success
- Independent, five-year evaluation
- 2009 – 2010: 87% seniors graduates, 98% at-risk students remained in school

Summary

»» What do we know?

Successful Programs

- ▣ Flexibility and engagement
- ▣ Communication and support
- ▣ Accountability for all stakeholders (teachers, administration, students, and parents)

